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Father's Day Gifts, Kids' Style

Father's Day is a time for sons and daughters to recognize the men in their lives. Those who run alongside bicycles while their children are learning to ride, who rescue kids from Mom-imposed grounding, and who feel trips to the ice cream shop should be a weekly ritual.

When it comes to offering Dad gifts in honor of his special day, younger children will likely find that handmade gifts from the heart are ones Dad cherishes the most. Here are a number of heartfelt, crafty ideas that children can put together for Father's Day.

- 1. Brimming basket: Fill a basket full of Dad's favorite foods or items related to his pastimes. Place a hand-crafted card inside and wrap with colored cellophane.
- 2. Scrapbook: Children can gather their favorite photos of moments they've shared with Dad and put together a small scrapbook with artwork or cutouts from magazines. Craft stores now devote entire aisles to scrapbooking supplies.
- 3. Personalized baseball cap: Use fabric paint or fabric markers to draw designs or messages on a lightcolored baseball hat.
- 4. Coupon book: Put together a book of coupons that treat Dad to special things, such as a homemade breakfast, a day off of any chores, or anything you can think of. Sign all the coupons and make a personalized cover. Staple everything together, then give to Dad.
- 5. Footprint craft and poem: Children can either trace their footprints onto a piece of poster board or make a ceramic print (like those hand prints often done in school). Craft stores sell plaster kits that harden in mere minutes after an impression has been made into the mixture. Accompany the footprint masterpiece with the following poem:

"Walk a little slower, Daddy," said a child so small, I'm following in your footsteps and I don't want to fall.

> Sometimes your steps are very fast, Sometimes they're hard to see; So walk a little slower, Daddy, For you are leading me. Someday when I'm all grown up, You're what I want to be; Then I will have a little child Who'll want to follow me. And I would want to lead just right, And know that I was true, So walk a little slower, Daddy, For I must follow you." (Author unknown)

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